Computing

The ability to use technology effectively is an increasingly vital life skill. Competence in Computing, Information Technology systems and Digital Literacy fulfils an increasing need for core user skills in the work place. The overall aim of our school, within Computing, is to produce learners who are confident and effective users of computing, communication tools and safe and responsible users of online systems. On transference of pupils to Year 7, we aim to have prepared our pupils to build upon their already sound knowledge and competency within key areas of Computing.

Progression is expected of **all** pupils in our school and where necessary, adaptations needed, will be met. Specific skills are taught during discrete Computing lessons but importantly, *the purpose* for particular skills is consolidated via a cross-curricular approach. Core computing skills are further consolidated via our Creative Curriculum (Topic); feeding further in to using technology for a purpose. Additionally, core curriculum subjects reflect the use of technology within to support, consolidate or further enhance learning.

As celebrated by outside agencies, a distinct feature of Thorntree Primary School is the recognition of pupil awareness of keeping themselves safe online. We continually endeavour to prepare our pupils to be **safe and responsible** Digital Citizens both in and out of school and we would ask parents and carers to further support this by monitoring and advising children's online use at home. Our pupils regularly receive information regarding how to be safe online, their rights and responsibilities and how to report issues they are concerned about to a trusted adult. They also regularly receive guidance on how to be dependable 'Digital Citizens' and how to report any concerns they may have. Whilst we have dedicated focus times for Anti-Bullying/E-Safety week, Safer Internet Day and such, your children are continually encouraged, taught and reminded to be 'pro-active & responsible online users' and any issues raised are discussed and addressed as they arise.

Staff are more than happy, if you feel unsure of any of the aspects surrounding these issues, to support you. Please do feel free to request an appointment with a member of staff should you have any concerns, queries or would appreciate advice.